

DSHS ESA Team Participate in 2010 Paddle to Makah

By Brady Rossnagle

NEAH BAY - On July 19, 2010, staff from the Economic Services Administration's Division of Child Support and the Community Services Division united to assist with the 2010 Tribal Canoe Journey - Paddle to Makah. Every summer as many as 100 canoes from U.S. and Canadian Tribes participate in the journey.



Back row: Deidre Finley, Brady Rossnagle, Teia Neal, Patty Busse
Front row: Lisa Vasquez, Sandi Cheek, Lori Webb, Diane Mitchell
Not pictured: Andy Pascua

Tribal Canoe Journeys honor centuries-old customs of transport, trade, and harvest by Coastal Salish peoples. Planning, preparation, and funding efforts often begin several years before the actual Canoe Journey. Host Tribes appreciate volunteers as they must plan for all of the logistics for the events,



including: advertising, invitations, set-up, facilities, programming, accommodations, food, dancing and drumming, story-telling, gifts, parking, transportation, garbage/recycling, and clean-up, for several thousand people.

Consider volunteering in a Canoe Journey. They provide a great opportunity to learn about Tribes and their history, meet and build relationships with our community partners, and personally experience tribal culture. The 2011 Canoe Journey will be held at the Swinomish Indian Tribal Community in La Conner. In 2011, you will find more information at www.swinomish-nsn.gov/resources/canoe-journey-2011.aspx.

